

Battle Ground Town Council

Meeting Minutes, September 11, 2017

Attending: Steve Egly, Council President; Councilor Greg Jones, Councilor James Miller, Councilor Mike Bird, Councilor Zach Raderstorf, Clerk Treasurer Georgia Jones, Town Attorney Eric Burns, Street Supervisor Ron Holladay, Town Marshal Jerry Burk.

Guests: Bill Miller, Kay Miller, Dave Buck, Ryan Smith

Steve Egly opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Budget Hearing

This meeting is the required public hearing to consider the advertised 2018 budgets for Battle Ground Civil Town and the Battle Ground Conservancy District.

Steve Egly opened the hearing for Battle Ground Conservancy District and the council and guests had opportunity to comment and ask questions. After all questions were received, Greg Jones **moved** to close the hearing. Second of James Miller, motion carried. 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Steve Egly opened the hearing for the 2018 Budget for Battle Ground Civil Town. After all comments and questions were received, Zach Raderstorf **moved** to close the hearing. Second of James Miller, motion carried. 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Guest Comment

Guest comment: Bill Miller reported that Rodgers Group, Inc. has filed for exception to zoning with the Board of Zoning Appeals. The appeals meeting is 6:00 p.m. September 27 at the county office building. Miller stated the Area Plan Commission Executive Board recommends denial of the exception.

Department Reports

Sewage

Ron Holladay recommends purchasing a meter to detect lethal gases in underground work areas, for weekly lift station inspection. The proposed model will detect four different gases, and must be calibrated every 3 months. Cost is approximately \$800 for a meter and \$1100 for a calibration kit. Council requests one or two additional price quotes to compare and review of what other community utilities, such as Lafayette, are using.

Discussion of sewage connection at 2636 E 600 N and a letter provided to the owner that November 1 is the target date to recheck the non-compliant sewage connection at that location.

Police

Jerry Burk talked about changes made at 5500 SR 43 N hotel. Excavators have been moved to the property and a power pole is set. Scrap metal has been removed but the fence has not been installed.

Traffic congestion near the elementary school is a problem for 7-10 minutes in the morning. School administration has stated there will be no change to bus or traffic procedures at this time.

The trees at 302 College St were topped by Mint City Tree, as a community project. They were too tall and posed a threat to nearby homes. The workmen reported the roof of the house is severely damaged. The property owner was previously advised to repair or remove the unsafe garage. After September 18 the owner will make a decision how to move forward.

The cruiser radios need to be replaced, the current models are obsolete and there will not be support for that technology. There is a possibility of a grant to help purchase four new radios.

Motion by Greg Jones to apply for the grant, second of James Miller. Motion carried, 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Staffing the compost area for a few hours a week has helped reduce the amount of large limbs and brush for chipping and transport. The gate is locked at 9:00 p.m.

Town Attorney

The transfer deed for easement in Shawnee Ridge has been signed by the homeowner association.

Clerk-Treasurer

Motion by Greg Jones to approve meeting minutes of July 17 and August 14. Second of James Miller, motion carried. 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Motion by Greg Jones to approve the minutes of August 22 public hearing for the Storm Water Utility. Second of Zach Raderstorf, motion carried. 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Abstain. James Miller did not attend the meeting and abstained from the vote.

Motion by Zach Raderstorf to approve the Register of Claims August 15 to September 11. Second of James Miller, motion carried. 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Area Plan

Greg Jones reported the Area Plan executive committee is in opposition to the request for zoning exception made by Rodgers Group, Inc. for a stone quarry near the Wabash River north of Americus, citing it would be detrimental to the county's comprehensive land use plan. Date and time of the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting was previously mentioned.

Committees

Communication - Zach Raderstorf is reviewing the town website and options to change content and web host. He would like to have a semi-annual town newsletter.

Streets and Roads - Greg Jones requested a Total Patcher project from Tippecanoe County Highway but has not received a response. The Community Crossing grant applications are still under review. The North Street project is nearing completion of the south sidewalk and curb. It is now apparent how much damage the heavy equipment and street cuts have made to both traffic lanes. At the time the project was initiated, the Town Council did not approve repaving the entire street, just the edges where the new curb is placed. At this time the estimate to repave the whole width from the bridge to the CSX crossing is \$40,000. There is no guarantee the state will address this section of rough road after the project is complete. The town council may call a special meeting to consider the costs of delaying paving versus correcting it now.

Sidewalks and Paths – no report

Personnel – no report

Old Business

Council considered draft resolution 17-134 repairs to sewage lines. Comments from Dave Buck regarding similar ordinances in other towns helped direct discussion. The main concern is providing some control in each repair project to protect and potentially reconstruct street surfaces. A repair agreement would be signed with the property owner before any work begins. Establishing the repair distance at two feet beyond the utility easement is thought to provide enough clearance. No decision was made.

Ordinance 17-556 Storm Water Utility was presented for second reading following the required public hearing held August 22 at Battle Ground Bible Church.

Motion by Greg Jones to adopt Ordinance 17-556, second of Zach Raderstorf.

Motion carried, 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

New Business

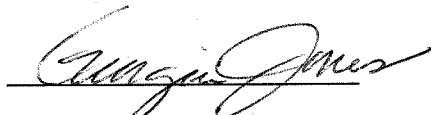
Georgia Jones requested a one year contract for email host with vendor CDW-G. Cost quote is \$382.50 for five email addresses with high level security designed for government accounts. Discussion of changing website host companies, which may provide email as part of web host expense, in the future.

Motion by Steve Egly to approve CDW-G hosting for this year. Second of James Miller.

Motion carried, 4 Aye, 1 Nay.

Aaron Knapp requested a review of traffic congestion and safety on Flintlock and Musket Way during school bus pick-up and drop-off times.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Bird, 8:45 p.m.


Georgia Jones, Clerk Treasurer


Steve Egly, Council President